

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY.

"TO CARE FOR HIM WHO HAS BORNE THE BATTLE, AND FOR HIS WIDOW AND ORPHANS."—ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

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The National Tribune.

"THE VALIDITY OF THE PUBLIC DEBT OF THE UNITED STATES, AUTHORIZED BY LAW, INCLUDING DEBTS INCURRED FOR PAYMENT OF PENSIONS AND BOUNTIES FOR SERVICES IN SUPPRESSING INSURRECTION OR REBELLION, SHALL NOT BE QUESTIONED."—SEC. 4, ART. XIV, CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., SEPTEMBER 24, 1881.

God Reigns.

But a little more than sixteen years ago, in the city of New York, upon the occasion of the death of President Lincoln, General James A. Garfield, then a Representative in Congress, uttered these memorable words:

"FELLOW-CITIZENS—Clouds and darkness are around about Him! His pavilion is dark waters and thick clouds of the skies! Justice and Judgment are the establishment of His throne! Mercy and Truth shall go before His face! Fellow-citizens, GOD REIGNS AND THE GOVERNMENT AT WASHINGTON STILL LIVES!"

On the 4th of March last General Garfield entered upon the duties of the high office to which he had been but recently chosen, and began his Presidential career under the most favorable auspices. The country was at peace, prosperity was abroad in the land, and all things, apparently, conspired to secure to him a quiet and prosperous administration. On the 2d of July, four months after he had taken the Presidential oath of office, he was vilely stricken down at the Nation's Capital, in the broad light of day and in the very presence of the whole civilized world. The shot that laid him low was felt in every loyal heart, with regard to party feeling or personal prejudices, throughout the length and breadth of the United States; and the sharp report of the assassin's pistol echoed from continent to continent until it had spanned the globe.

Since that fateful and terrible event, and until the night of the 19th of the present month, fifty millions of people have been engaged in testing the strength of our institutions and their regard for the Chief Magistrate of the Nation. The impulse to execute vengeance upon the foul murderer of the President and of the people's peace has been subjected to the universal respect for the requirements of law, and individual sorrows and sufferings have been merged in, and to a great extent overshadowed by, the greater public misfortune.

The end, which many foresaw and all feared, has at length arrived. General Garfield, the devoted son and husband, the loving parent, the kind and sincere friend, the man of the people, the scholar, the soldier, the statesman, the earnest patriot, and late the President of the United States, is dead. The fell destroyer that so rudely severed the tender cords which bound him to his family and to his trusted bosom friends, also snapped the stronger chain of duty that bound him to the State. His loss thus becomes a double bereavement. His gentle, patient, and devoted wife mourns for him, and there is no comfort for her outside of Him who ruleth the lives and fortunes of all. His children sorrow as they only can who have lost a noble, loving, and devoted parent.

Friends weep because they shall no more see his manly form, nor longer drink inspiration from his words of kindness and wisdom as they listen to the voice of his teachings. And then, beside all these whose personal relations were such as to bring them nearest to the great heart now stilled forever, joining its grief with theirs, the Nation stands with bowed head, struck dumb, as it were, by the great calamity that has fallen upon the people. There are clouds and darkness all around. But justice and judgment are established in the land, and in this all hearts may find comfort. Mercy and truth shall go before the face of the Lord, and the final ending, whatever it may be, of what now is, shall be to His honor and glory. "God reigns, and the Government at Washington still lives."

President Arthur.

It is not yet time, nor is it a befitting opportunity for us to speculate as to the future course of the new President. During the trying weeks intervening since the 2d of July he has demeaned himself in such a manner as to win the respect of all; and from his well-known character we have good reason to hope that his administration will be worthy, not only of himself, but of the great party which put him in a position to become the successor of the lamented dead. The Republican party elected him Vice-President, thus expressing their confidence in his loyalty, integrity, ability, and good judgment, and we do not believe they will have any occasion, from any act of his, to regret their choice. It is true that he enters upon the duties of his high office at a time of great public excitement, and while the people are mourning for his immediate predecessor. His position is far from being a pleasant one, but for that he is in nowise responsible. The Constitution has made him President as imperatively as the people had previously made him Vice-President, and as good citizens we ought to assist and encourage him in his administration of affairs, honestly, earnestly, and willingly. If we do this we may safely trust to him and his advisers to do whatever may be found necessary in order to ensure for us, as a Nation, peace and prosperity at home, and due respect abroad.

The Reason Why.

Complaint is made that there is a great scarcity of sailors, and it is thought that the U. S. S. Brooklyn, which is to be the flagship of the South Atlantic squadron, will be delayed in sailing for want of a crew. There are, according to report, scarcely enough sailors on the receiving-ship Vermont, at New York, to supply the new complement to be sent to the Richmond.

This is nothing more than is to be expected, in view of the condition of our merchant marine, which in times past was the feeder from whence the Navy drew material to man its ships.

Americans do not like to sail under a foreign flag, and with no vessels of our own in which they can serve those inclined to the sea adopt some other calling. If the merchant navy of the United States were but what it used to be, with a respectable fleet afloat and plenty of new ships building, sailors would be plentiful and the Government would find no difficulty in securing enlistments. The material thus furnished would be of the best, and, if not at first, would in the course of a few years be composed almost wholly of native-born citizens; and then, with proper war ships, we should have the finest navy in the world, of which we need not feel ashamed, and with which we need not feel afraid to meet other maritime nations upon the ocean, either in peace or time of war.

Headstones for Soldiers' Graves.

Some time ago Congress made provision for marking the graves of soldiers, wherever buried, who died in defense of the Union or after their discharge from the service. All that is required to secure a neat and appropriate headstone is for the relatives or friends of such deceased soldiers to write to the Quartermaster-General U. S. A., in this city, stating the full name of soldier, company, regiment, and location (town, county, and State) of the grave. These requests, however, should be sent in without delay, as the Department is anxious to settle up this branch of its business as soon as possible.

Under a recent ruling headstones will not be furnished in cases of deaths subsequent to 1879.

Guiteau.

The victim lies beneath the Capitol's high dome, cold, silent, peacefully, dead. A Nation mourns for him, and the hearts of fifty millions of people are throbbing in unison with sympathy for his widow and orphan children.

The assassin lies in his cell at the jail a prey to all the cruel thoughts and fancies which his hellish deed has called into existence. They are eating into his very vitals as it were, like a pack of ravenous wolves. They give him no relief. Night and day he is brought face to face with his crime and compelled to live over and over again his sufferings.

The victim is guarded by love—the assassin by the stern arm of the law. About his prison sentries pace up and down to remind him that for him there is a day of reckoning yet to come. From all that can be gathered of his past life he is a curish and dangerous nature, and we are glad for the sake of our Nation's honor that there is but one such—one Guiteau—between the two oceans. We do not believe that were the continent to be searched over his like could be found. We hope we may soon be rid of him; that no bare technicality of the law may stand between him and a speedy trial, conviction, sentence, and punishment.

We desire, however, to see that he has the right guaranteed to every citizen—of a fair and impartial trial. His crime was committed in a land of law, and under the law let him be condemned. Any other method which might be chosen to avenge the death of General Garfield would dishonor our Government and bring shame upon our people. Let us be patient, therefore, and in good time we shall be able to prove to the world that the Government lives though its Chief Magistrate was vilely slain, and that we, as a Nation, can be eminently just even to the greatest criminal among men.

"The Government at Washington still lives."

An Extra Session of the Senate.

It is reported, upon what is considered good authority, that in due time, as soon as affairs have become somewhat more settled, President Arthur will convene the Senate in extraordinary executive session in order that a presiding officer may be chosen, and that other matters requiring attention may be disposed of.

The Post-mortem Examination.

The official report of the post-mortem examination of the body of the deceased President, if correctly stated, reveals a singular condition of affairs. The assassin's bullet was found to the left of the spine, back of the heart, while all along, according to the statements of the attending surgeons, the track of the leaden messenger of death was down the right side, resulting in a wound more than sixteen inches in depth, and which terminated near the groin. If medical science can furnish no more correct diagnosis than was made by Bliss and his colleagues, then, indeed, were we better off without doctors.

National Cemeteries.

We publish in another column a list of National Cemeteries, with the number of interments in each, which will afford food for reflection to every citizen in the land.

Three hundred thousand men lie buried at different points—men who died that the Nation might live. All the money spent in the prosecution of the war becomes as dross when compared with the rich gift of so much of loyalty, manhood, and patriotic devotion.

Not Satisfactory.

It would have been more satisfactory to the people of the United States had some reputable and well-known surgeons outside of those who were or had been in attendance upon President Garfield, been called in to be present at the post-mortem examination. The character of the bulletins issued from time to time during the last eighty days is not calculated to strengthen the faith of the public in the correctness of subsequent statements made by the same parties in relation to the matter.

A GOVERNMENT founded by the people, for the people, and resting upon a foundation laid in the hearts of the people, cannot perish while the people survive.

At the graves of their dear ones members of the same family should forget all former differences.

PRESIDENT Garfield died upon the anniversary of the battle of Chickamauga, in which he played a prominent part.

MESSAGES of condolence and sympathy have been received by the Secretary of State for Mrs. Garfield from all parts of the world.

THE question "where must Guiteau be tried?" is being discussed. We have no choice, so that he only be convicted and properly punished.

MRS. Garfield did not return to the White House, but during her stay in the city was domiciled at the residence of the Attorney-General.

A PIT'S cavity sixteen inches deep upon the right side of the patient's body is always a sure indication of a healthy condition of the wound, wherever it may be located.

THE right iliac fossa lies back of the heart and under the left shoulder-blade, as has been recently ascertained by a free use of the induction balance.

SO SENSITIVE is the induction balance that it will lie worse than the attending physicians, in order to mislead.

THE MORGAN COUNTY EAGLE.

We have received the first number of the Morgan county Eagle, published at Jacksonville, Illinois, which we gladly welcome to the field of journalism. It is a bright, newsy sheet, evidently alive to all public and local interests, and has a gallant soldier, Mr. John S. Harper, for editor, which is a sufficient introduction for us. Here's our hand, comrade.

SERGEANT MASON'S CRIME.

There has been more or less discussion as to whether the civil or military courts would try Mason. The fact that a court-martial has been appointed to meet at Washington, has misled the daily papers. This court-martial has been called for routine business, and was ordered before Mason committed his offense. Besides, a court to try Mason would manifestly have to be constituted somewhat differently. General Hancock has received the charges against Sergeant Mason. There are two, as follows: First, conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline; second, attempting to shoot a prisoner without orders from a superior officer. Doubtless a general court-martial will be organized for Mason's trial next week under the sixty-second Article of War. We repeat that the violation of duty by Sergeant Mason is one for which there is no excuse. He detested Guiteau; but he had no monopoly of detestation, for every right-minded citizen feels the same sentiments. But he has succeeded in inflicting a severe blow on the honored reputation of the Army for being a body that could be trusted to execute the laws, no matter what were the sways of popular passion around it.—Army and Navy Journal.

We again impress upon our patrons who wish to continue their subscriptions to THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE the importance of sending on the additional amount of one dollar before the 20th of October.

GENERAL SHERMAN'S LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 19, 1881.

Hon. GEO. C. GORHAM, National Republican.

MY DEAR SIR: You and I have been comrades in civil broils and strife in California, when vigilance committees assumed rule, and we know, or think we know, how good, honest people have done some acts of violence under an honest conviction that they were doing the right thing, and we believe that Time, the great physician, will cure all things to the patient.

I have occasionally and recently heard the same arguments on the streets, the same scraps of wisdom enunciated, and now, at the dread hour, when our noble, brave President is lying in the very agonies of death at Long Branch, and the cowardly, miserable wretch Guiteau is cowering in his cell at the public jail, it occurs to me that you and I should in our respective spheres make profitable use of our past experience.

No man on earth holds in higher esteem the noble qualities of James A. Garfield than myself. I was on the point of starting for Chattanooga to-night to do honor to the heroes of Chickamauga, of whom he was one most prominent, but was stayed by the unfavorable report from his bedside at noon, and I shall remain here at my post of duty till the last moment of hope. At Chickamauga, eighteen years ago, Garfield was chief of staff to General Rosecrans, whose right wing was broken back by the vehement charges of Bragg's forces, and was carried along with the broken masses almost into Chattanooga, when he begged for the privilege of returning to join General George H. Thomas, whose guns told him that that heroic man stood fast with his left wing. General Rosecrans gave him leave and he did return, running the gauntlet, joining General Thomas and serving close to his person till night enabled them to fall back in good order to Chattanooga. That was General Garfield's last fight, in which he felt especial pride; and I know that he intended to be at Chattanooga next Wednesday to celebrate the event. But it is ordered otherwise, for he now lies by the seashore on his deathbed from a wound inflicted by the miserable wretch Guiteau.

For this man Guiteau I ask no soldier, no citizen to feel one particle of sympathy. On the contrary could I make my will the law, shooting, or hanging would be too good for him. But I do ask every soldier and every citizen to remember that we profess to be the most loyal Nation on earth to the sacred promises of the law. There is no merit in obeying an agreeable law, but there is glory and heroism in submitting gracefully to an oppressive one. Our Constitution reads: "No person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury," and "in all criminal prosecutions the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed." This is the solemn contract of Government, binding on the consciences of all. Should our President die the murderer is entitled to a speedy trial by a jury, and I hope he will have justice done him.

But it is not my office or yours or anybody's except the regular courts of this District, which are in undisputed power. Violence in any form will bring reproach on us all—upon the country at large, and especially on us of the District of Columbia.

All the circumstances of the shooting, of the long heroic struggle for life, impress me so strongly that I would be ashamed of my countrymen if they mingled with their feelings of grief any thought of vengeance. "Vengeance is mine, saith the Lord."

I trust the public press will use its powerful influence to maintain the good order and decorum which have prevailed since the saddest of all days in Washington, July 2, 1881. Sincerely your friend,

W. T. SHERMAN.

THE TRUTH OF HISTORY.

The latest answer to Mr. Black comes from Mr. Henry Janney, who writes to the Baltimore American that when the ship for the relief of Major Anderson sailed, a member of Buchanan's Cabinet telegraphed to Charleston: "The Star of the West is entering your harbor to provision Fort Sumter. Sink her." He throws the responsibility for the dispatch upon all of Mr. Buchanan's advisers by asking, "Who can say that the telegram was not sanctioned by the Cabinet?" In another place he is more specific—where he recalls a conversation of his with "Clem Vallandigham and Jere Black," when the latter two "tried to convince him" of the virtue and power of the rebellion, "the Judge" saying: "As a Virginian you should be ashamed of yourself not to espouse the cause of your section and your State."

THE DORY LITTLE WESTERN.

The dory Little Western, manned by George P. Thomas and Fred. Norman, arrived at Gloucester on the 15th, having completed a round trip from that port to London and back. She is 13½ feet keel, 2½ in depth, 6 feet 8 inches in width, and is the only dory that ever crossed the ocean both ways. She was built in Gloucester in May, 1880, and sailed from there June 12, 1880, touched at the Scilly Islands when five hours less than forty-four days out, arrived at Cowes July 28, and Gravesend August 1. Her average progress was sixty-three miles per day and her best run 163 miles. After being on exhibition in various British ports for ten months she sailed from London on the 14th of June, passing the Lizard on the 27th, and, after a rough passage, touched at Point Mithran, Cape Breton, August 28, and arrived at Halifax September 2, sailing thence for Gloucester six days later.

The Little Western is the third Gloucester-built dory to cross the Atlantic, Alfred Johnson crossing alone in the Centennial in 1876 and Andrews and Boos in the Nautilus in 1878. The Little Western will proceed to New York.

The will of the late Hendrick B. Wright, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., who advertised himself during life as the people's friend, and said he was not afraid to be called a demagogue, leaves all his large property in equal parts to his four children. Not a cent is left to any public use.—Buffalo Express.

GARFIELD'S EARLY LIFE.

James A. Garfield was born in Orange, Cuyahogo county, Ohio, November 19, 1834. His father died during the following summer, leaving his widow with four children, the eldest a girl, Mehitabel, bearing her grandmother's Puritan name; the second, Morris, called after his uncle; the third, Mary, and the blue-eyed baby, James Abram, christened for his great uncle. His father left but little means, and the widow, with the assistance of her older children, managed to keep her family together, and allow young James, who seemed to have an earnest desire to acquire an education, to go to school a portion of the time. His early struggles at the trade of a carpenter, chopping wood, on the canal-boat, &c., were all fully set forth in the various sketches of his life that were published during the presidential campaign, and are already familiar to every one. They serve to show the indomitable energy of the man, and his longing for a thorough education. He was graduated at Williams College, Massachusetts, and the trip that was to have commenced on July 2 included a visit to his alma mater and a reunion of his classmates. On the 11th of November, 1858, he was married to Miss Lucretia Rudolph, to whom he had been engaged in 1854, who was first his pupil, then his friend, and finally the Rev. Dr. Hitchcock, president of the Western Reserve College at Hudson, Ohio, made her his wife. Garfield became professor of Latin and Greek in Hiram College in 1856, and between that and 1859 he taught, lectured, and preached, at the same time mingling actively in politics. In 1859 he was elected State Senator to represent Summit and Portage counties, although at that time but twenty-eight years of age. He was holding this position when the war broke out, and he entered the army as colonel of the Forty-second Ohio Volunteers. His career as a Union officer is well known, and his fame is inseparably connected with the history of the valiant deeds of the Army of the Cumberland. He was promoted to the rank of brigadier-general January 10, 1862, was appointed chief of staff of the Army of the Cumberland, and promoted to be major-general September 20, 1863. While in the field he was elected a member of the Thirty-eighth Congress from the Nineteenth Ohio district, and he left the army to assume his duties as a legislator. The record of his services in the Thirty-eighth, Thirty-ninth, Fortieth, Forty-first, Forty-second, Forty-third, Forty-fourth, Forty-fifth, and Forty-sixth Congresses is a part of the history of the action of the Republican party during the trying period of reconstruction, and the earnest attempt to bring up the credit of the Nation, until, finally, specie payment was resumed.

Shortly after taking his seat in Congress he was appointed on the Military Committee, under the chairmanship of General Schenck, and was of great service in carrying through the measures which recruited the armies during the closing years of the war. At the same time he began a course of severe study of the subject of finance and political economy, going home every evening to his modest lodgings in Thirteenth street with his arms full of books borrowed from the Congressional Library. He soon took rank in the House as a ready and forcible debater, a hard worker, and a diligent, practical legislator.

In his third term he was chairman of the Committee on Indian Affairs; in 1868 was made chairman of the Banking and Currency Committee, and in 1871 appointed to the chairmanship of the Committee on Appropriations, which he held until 1875, when the Democrats took control of the House. He was elected to the Senate to succeed Stanley Matthews, but before he could take his seat he was nominated at Chicago to be the standard-bearer of the Republican party in the presidential contest. The memories of the campaign, the successful result, and the triumphal inauguration are fresh in the minds of all. No President ever entered upon his term of office under more favorable auspices. The whole Nation seemed to rejoice in the result of the election, and the inaugural festivities were more elaborate and more heartily indulged in than that of any former incumbent of the office.

General Garfield has five children living, and has lost two, who died in infancy. The two older boys, Harry and James, are now at school in New Hampshire. Mary—or Molly, as everybody calls her—is a handsome, rosy-cheeked girl of about twelve. The two younger boys are named Irwin and Abram. The General's mother is still living, and has long been a member of his family. She is an intelligent, energetic old lady, with a clear head and a strong will, who keeps well posted in the news of the day, and is very proud of her son's career, though more liberal of criticism than of praise.

General Garfield's property may amount to \$20,000. It consists exclusively of his farm in Ohio and his house in Washington, and every dollar of it has been earned by his own exertions. He has saved a little every year from his salary, and this, with an occasional legal fee, has made up the bulk of his estate. When he entered Congress he owned a little house in Hiram, worth, perhaps, \$1,500. General Garfield's district lies in the extreme northeastern corner of Ohio, and now embraces the counties of Ashtabula, Trumbull, Geauga, Lake, and Portage. With the exception of the coal and iron regions in the extreme southern part, the district is a rural one, and is inhabited by a population of pure New England ancestry. It is the most intelligent congressional district in the country, having less illiteracy in proportion to the population than in any other.

Please Report.

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE wishes full and early reports of army reunions, Grand Army, and other meetings of general interest to soldiers, for publication, and asks that some of our friends will please be kind enough to see that they are sent to us at the earliest possible moment.

THOSE who have not the means to subscribe for THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE should remember that any person sending us ten subscribers with \$12.50, will be entitled to a copy of our paper for one year free of charge. The names need not all be sent at one time. When the number is complete the extra copy will be sent to the getter-up of the club.